

GOODYEAR CITYREPORT

July 2005



**Get
Ready
to be
Counted!**

The 2005 Census Survey is just around the corner and the city is hoping you'll make sure that you and others in your family are counted.

The national count begins in September with a mailing of a questionnaire to 1 out of every 13 households throughout Maricopa County. If you receive a questionnaire, your form will represent not only your household but 12 others who did not receive the questionnaire! That's why it is so important to fill it out and to return it as soon as possible.

Goodyear's population has grown from 18,911 in 2000 to 35,810 in 2004. This fast growth can strain city resources. By counting all residents, the city will be assured of getting its fair share of all federal and state funds that are distributed to communities based on their population.

Goodyear expects to receive as much as \$3.5 million in additional annual revenues as a result of the census. This could operate two additional fire stations each year or pay for the City's allocation of Central Arizona Project water each year.

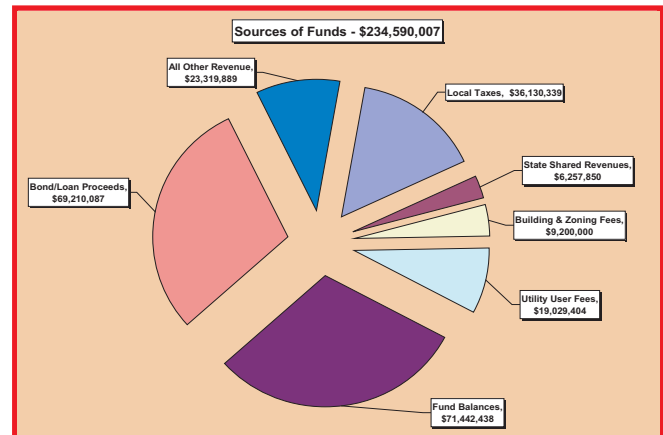
For every person missed in our city, Goodyear will lose \$206 in annual revenues for the next five years until the 2010 census.

For more information, visit www.census2005.com.

New Budget Approved

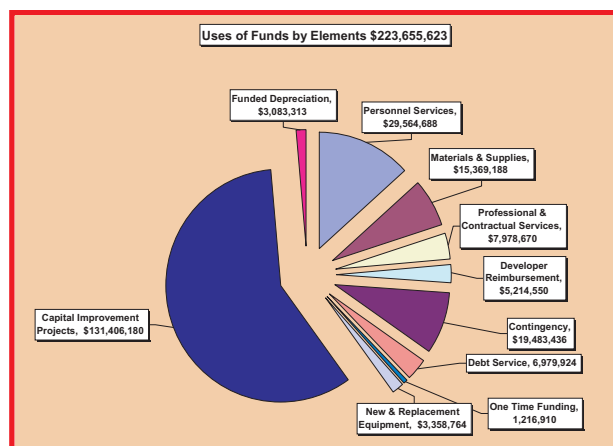
Where the Money Comes From

In June, your City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2005/06 budget totaling \$223,655,623 and a combined property tax of only \$1.60 per \$100 of assessed valuation, 19 percent **lower** than last year. The FY 2005/06 budget is 46% higher than last year's city budget (\$153,339,963). This year's budget is based on expected funding sources of more than \$234,590,000.



One-third of the funding sources comes from fund balances left over from last year's budget (\$71.4 million). The next largest funding source comes from the sale of bonds to build projects and from loan proceeds (29%). Local taxes, which contribute 15% of revenues (\$36.1 million), are made up of city sales taxes, property taxes, and franchise fees from utilities using our rights-of-way. Utility user fees charged to trash customers citywide and and water and sewer customers (all residents south of I-10) bring in 8% of the revenues.

Where the Money Goes



The Capital Improvement Program which builds City facilities such as fire stations, parks and wastewater treatment plants plus infrastructure such as roads and sewers, continues to represent 59 percent of the budget (\$131.4 million) just as it did last year to meet the needs of our growing city.

The next largest appropriation is for the City's Contingency Fund - our rainy day

savings account for unexpected expenses or economic development opportunities that may occur throughout the year. The Contingency Fund represents nine percent of our total expenditures (\$19.5 million). This is a big increase over last year when the Contingency Fund equalled \$4.2 million and only 3% of total expenditures.

Public Safety and Water/Sewer Services each make up 8% of the total FY 2005/06 spending, while Public Works (streets, parks, recreation and sanitation) and Administration each equals 6% of the expenditures. Development Services adds 3% to the spending, and debt service accounts for only 2%.



Mayor Jim Cavanaugh

Mayor - New Budget Provides for Growth

inspections grows harder during such high growth times.

So, we directed the staff to focus on key basic service areas in the following order:

- > water and wastewater services
- > public safety
- > development services and economic development
- > parks and recreation
- > roads and drainage
- > staff support

As a result, the largest area of spending - 59 percent of our \$223.7 million budget - is the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) - \$131.4 million. With such a large Capital budget comes the need to hire staff to run the facilities that are built and to maintain the additional miles of infrastructure to be constructed whether it is roads, rights-of-way, water lines or sewer lines. To further ensure maximum service delivery and quick turn-around time, we insisted on adding largely line staff rather than management positions.

More than 39 percent of the 72 new positions in the City will be for public safety to man a new fire station opening this year at Canyon Trails and to help police strengthen its beat system and better coordinate with neighborhoods and schools. Water/wastewater personnel to run our expanded systems, development services employees to improve turn-around time and Public Works personnel to build/maintain parks and streets **each** represent about 15 percent of the positions approved.

Almost one-third of the entire CIP budget is for improvement districts and other projects (\$41.3 million) that address the growing demands of new development. Water and wastewater capital projects follow with almost a

quarter (\$30.8 million) of the entire CIP budget so we can better meet wastewater flows, water supply demand and water quality requirements.

While increased population adds to the demands, it also adds to our revenues because many taxes and intergovernmental revenues are distributed according to population. It is the additional revenues we are forecasting for FY 05-06 that have allowed us to increase our CIP, hire needed staff and also maintain a healthy contingency fund of more than \$19 million. This "rainy day" savings account will help us meet major unexpected expenses or to capture economic opportunities such as a university or spring training teams. The healthy financial position also resulted in a higher bond rating from Standard & Poor's which helps us save millions in interest on the debt we incur to carry out our Capital Improvement Program.

Goodyear's business activity has benefited from the economic expansion with increases in sales tax receipts and construction taxes. Because of this, the City was able to lower the City's maximum property tax rate 50 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation and offset it with higher construction tax revenues. Your maximum City property tax rate was lowered from \$2.10 to \$1.60 beginning in FY 05-06. By reducing the rate, it will help ease the tax increases residents will experience in this strong real estate market which has added value to every property assessment in Goodyear.

With this new budget, we are confident we have successfully addressed the growth demands Goodyear faces in FY 2005-06. We are poised to seek economic development opportunities, and we can deliver an even better level of city services to our citizens.

For 10 years we have experienced 16-18 percent growth every year with our population more than doubling in the past five years alone. We don't anticipate a slowdown for several years; in fact, we expect to see 20,000 more households in the next five years. We will see more than 4 million square feet of major retail and mixed-use developments within the next three years that will change the face of our city. ***Goodyear is a city on the move*** and its government must keep up with the pace.

Last year, before preparing the budget, Council asked staff to take a hard look at how to be more efficient while making our services and processes more effective. With efficiencies established, this year Council asked the staff to analyze how our 16-18 percent rate of growth will truly affect our ability to deliver both basic and enhanced services in Fiscal Year 2005-06.

Some of the statistics are worrisome. The number of police calls has risen dramatically. Meeting our Fire Department goal of a 4-minute response time is exceedingly more difficult. Making sure we have enough water to meet peak summer demands continues to be a struggle should we have a problem in our production system. Having the capacity to handle all the wastewater created by more than 2,400 additional homes each year as well as industry requires quite an extensive plant expansion. Maintaining quick turn-around times for builders by keeping up with plan reviews and building

Goodyear Police Department Honors Its Own at First Annual Awards Reception

The first annual Police Department Awards reception was held in May at the Hampton Inn. Police employees, the Mayor and City Council members, and Goodyear Directors attended as Police Chief Mark Brown gave several awards to employees to recognize them for years of service, physical fitness, achievements, distinguished service to their community and for acts of valor.



**Police Chief
Mark Brown**



Officer Bill Ryan was awarded the **Medal of Valor**, the department's highest award for heroism and distinction in extremely hazardous circumstances, for saving the life of a fellow officer who was pinned down during a gunfight at a local motel. As Ryan entered the scene, the perpetrator pointed his gun right at Office Ryan. It was determined that Ryan

had no choice but to shoot the gunman to protect himself and his fellow officer.



Officers Adam Tellez and David Bryant received **Medals of Valor**.

With no regard for their own safety, both men entered a burning house to rescue a man and take him to safety. Tellez then went back into the house and rescued a man sleeping in a back bedroom. Tellez himself had to be treated for smoke inhalation. Thanks to these brave officers, the people they rescued are alive today.



Officer Latroy Campbell received the **Lifesaving Award** for giving CPR to a patient in respiratory arrest for several minutes until the Fire Dept. could respond. Fire nominated him because the patient is alive today thanks to the officer.

Sergeant Jason Seabright (pictured) and **Officer Eugene Hindman** were both recognized with **Physical Fitness Awards**. Both are frequent marathoners.



Police Awards Reception cont'd. from page 3



Telecommunications Operator Matt Hoskins was the recipient of the **Distinguished Service Award** for showing courage, tenacity and perseverance in the performance of duty that saved the life of a citizen's daughter. The girl had called her parents from a cell phone after taking pills in a suicide attempt. She had become unresponsive and the parents called 911. Matt used all his resources and other outside agencies to pinpoint where the girl's cell phone call had originated. With Matt's information, Avondale Police found the girl alive, but unresponsive. She was transported to the hospital and lived – thanks to Matt's incredible efforts beyond the call of duty!

Officer Paul Petrik for stepping up and leading the department's recruiting efforts, especially in the first year of recruiting non-certified officers, and for being on the team for 6 years. Not only does he do the hiring, but also the mentoring and coaching of these new individuals to give them support and to instill the values of the organization.

Officer Sean Clarke for his starting and building Goodyear's K-9 Unit to include two teams, for the many awards he and his dog and the unit have won nationwide, and for the many apprehensions, particularly for catching a suspect that had shot and injured a Glendale officer.

Chief's Achievement Ribbons

are awarded for projects, sustained performance, or a series of acts over a period of time which demonstrate professional excellence and exemplify the highest standards by virtue of diligence, dedication and character.



Sergeant Scott Benson for his work in enhancing the Police Department's relationship with both schools and the community. He is committed to the success of the School Resource Officers and also commits his own time to attending and speaking at HOA meetings to improve neighborhood/police relations.

Telecommunications Supervisor Sherry Giese for being heavily involved in the Police CAS/RMS project, acting as a team leader and ensuring the CAD portion and many of the patrol-related areas were planned and implemented correctly.

She is also active in the deployment of the Mobile Data Computers into the patrol vehicles.



Goodyear City Council

Left to right:
Councilmembers Brenda Holland, Fred Scott, and Dick Sousa, Mayor Jim Cavanaugh, Vice Mayor Frank Cavalier and Councilmembers Rob Antoniak and Georgia Lord.

Goodyear City Council returns on August 22 with a regular meeting at 6 p.m. at Goodyear Justice Facility, 986 S. Litchfield Rd.

Deadline Nears For Sewer Rate Appeals Only For Those South of I-10

Each year in May, the sewer bill is averaged based on actual water usage during the months of January, February and March – this becomes the Winter Quarter Average. If household monthly water usage is *under* the assumed monthly minimum usage rate (2400 gallons per **each** member of home), an adjustment will **not** be considered for the sewer rate. However, if the monthly water usage is *over* the minimum monthly usage for the household occupancy, you may want to ask the City to consider a sewer rate adjustment.

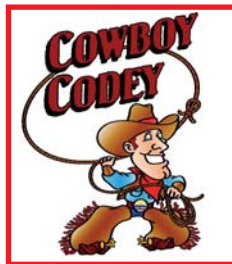
A Sewer Fee Adjustment Self-Audit Form is available on-line at www.goodyearaz.gov or from the City's Customer Counter at 190 N. Litchfield Rd. Mail the completed form to: *City of Goodyear, Attn. Sewer Rate Appeal, P.O. Box 1500, Goodyear, AZ 85338.* **Completed forms must be received no later than Aug. 31st.** The City will mail a decision within 30 business days advising whether an adjustment will be made. This does not apply to LPSCO customers north of I-10. If questions, call 623-932-3015.

Facts, Important Dates for September 13th Election

*Proposition 400 is the only measure on the ballot in the September election. Proposition 400 is brought to the voters by a referendum challenging the changes City Council approved to portions of the 2003 International Fire Code relating to residential fire sprinklers for **all** new homes in the City of Goodyear.*

Background: In January 2005, the Goodyear City Council changed its Fire Code to include the installation of fire sprinklers for **all** new single-family home construction after July 1, 2005, rather than just for new single-family homes built that had 5,000 or more square feet. The residential sprinkler requirement for all single family homes is consistent with efforts in other cities such as Scottsdale, Paradise Valley, Fountain Hills, Cave Creek, Cottonwood and some sections of Peoria, which already require residential fire sprinklers.

This proposition has been sent to the ballot by a petition to ask voters if the decision to adopt the provision requiring installation of residential fire sprinklers in **all** new homes constructed after the effective date of the ordinance should be upheld or reversed. If Proposition 400 is approved by the voters, the ordinance will become effective on September 26, 2005, requiring residential fire sprinklers for all new homes constructed in the City of Goodyear after that date. If not approved, the code will not change and will still apply to only new homes of 5000 square feet or more.



Cowboy Codey Sez .

Keep the Right-of-Way the Right Way!

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Aug. 15** - deadline to register to vote. Request an application from www.Maricopa.gov or call 602-506-1511.
- **Sept. 2** - Deadline to request an early ballot from www.Maricopa.gov or call 602-506-1511.
- **Aug. 11** - Early voting begins and goes until Sept. 9. Voters can mail ballot to Maricopa County Elections Dept. or cast their ballots at the City Clerk's Office in City Hall, 190 N. Litchfield Rd.

For more information, call 623-882-7830.

When doing the day-to-day maintenance of lawns it easy to overlook the fact that your tree which provides so much shade may actually be creating a dangerous situation by blocking a stop sign or preventing pedestrians from using the sidewalk. Branches and bushes which border paths must be pruned to ensure that anyone using those paths can do so without being forced to bend, twist or otherwise contort themselves in order to avoid injury. When a pedestrian is forced to use the street because the sidewalk is cluttered with growth, that person becomes, unnecessarily, at risk of being struck by a vehicle. Keeping your sidewalks clear of growth eliminates this and even adds to the aesthetics of your property.

Any growth that obstructs traffic signs must also be trimmed or removed to prevent accidents. Stop signs are the most common warning devices that are blocked by trees and represent one of the biggest hazards when this occurs. By keeping the area around the signs clear of branches, you are actively participating in the prevention of accidents. *Thanks for doing your part to keep your right -of-way unobstructed!*

Handy Outdoor Watering Guide Helps Save Water

In order to conserve water this summer, it is very important to not over water your landscaping. The chart below is a guide you can use to help you adjust watering schedules for various trees, plant types and grass for the summer season. Soil types and conditions are different throughout Goodyear, so use this chart as a starting point and adjust based upon your individual soil conditions.

After adjusting your watering schedule, turn on each of your watering zones. When the zones are finished, insert a long screwdriver or a metal rod with sharpened end into the soil. Your soil probe should slide easily through wet soil but will be harder or impossible to push through dry soil.

Compare the depth that your soil probe penetrated to the chart below and adjust your watering schedule accordingly. By testing your landscaping often, you should be able to save both water and money by not over watering your plants.

Landscape Watering Guidelines			
Plant Type <small>Established (1yr - shrubs, 3 yrs- trees)</small>		Watering Depth	Summer <small>(May- Oct.)</small>
Trees	Desert Adapted	24-26 inches	7-21 days
	High-water Use	24-36 inches	7-10 days
Shrubs	Desert Adapted	18-24 inches	7-21 days
	High-water Usage	18-24 inches	5-7 days
Groundcovers & Vines	Desert Adapted	8-12 inches	7-21 days
	High-water Use	8-12 inches	2-5 days
Cacti/Succulents		8-12 inches	14-30 days
Annuals		8-12 inches	2-5 days
Warm Season Grass		6-10 inches	3-6 days

Job Openings

Visit the City of Goodyear Web site at www.goodyearaz.gov or call the City's 24-hour hotline, **(623) 932-1716**, for job listings. Goodyear accepts applications only for open positions. The Human Resource Office is located at 190 N. Litchfield Rd. Phone (623) 882-7752. TTY (623) 932-6500. **EEO/M/F/V/H/D.**

Larry Lange Promoted to City's New Finance Director

Larry Lange, Goodyear's former Controller, was promoted to the position of Finance Director in June.



Prior to joining the City as controller in April 2005, Lange managed Goodyear's FY 2003-04 annual financial audit as an outside consultant and also served three years as Senior Project Manager with MuniFinancial, a financial consulting firm. During the previous 15 years, Lange was with the City of Show Low where he served as Deputy City Manager and City Treasurer. He is a member of the Government Finance Officers Association, Arizona Finance Officers Association, Arizona City Managers Association and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.



Your Opinion Counts

We want your ideas on how we may better serve you. Just fill out this form and return it with your garbage collection bill or mail it to Linda Dillard, Community Advocate, 190 N. Litchfield Rd., P.O. Box 5100, Goodyear, AZ 85338, or e-mail to Ldillard@goodyearaz.gov.

Comments (please print) _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-mail _____



GOODYEAR CITYREPORT

A monthly publication
for the citizens of Goodyear

July 2005
Vol. 20, Issue 7

Published by
City of Goodyear
Public Information Office
(623) 882-7820
TTY Number (623) 932-6500
Editor: Paula Ilardo

Contact Us:
Goodyear City Hall
190 N. Litchfield Rd.
P.O. Box 1500
Goodyear, AZ 85338
623-932-3910

cifb@goodyearaz.gov